EAST LIBERTY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

MINUTES

1885

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SEMI-CENTENNIAL.

MINUTES

OF THE

FIFTIETH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

EAST LIBERTY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH THE CHURCH AT

LA FAYETTE, ALA.,

SEPTEMBER 23, 24, AND 25, 1885.

Elder J. F. BLEDSOE, Moderator.
Elder W. C. BLEDSOE, Clerk and Treasurer.

☞ The next session of the Association will be held with Providence church, Chambers co., Ala., beginning on Wednesday before the 4th Sunday in September, 1886. Introductory sermon by Eld. Geo. E. Brewer.

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MINUTES.

FIRST DAY—MORNING.

La Fayette, Ala., Wednesday, Sept. 23rd, 1885.

The Fiftieth Annual Session of the East Liberty Association convened with the Baptist church at La Fayette, Ala., on the 23rd day of Sept. 1885.

At 11 o'clock, A. M., the Introductory Sermon was preached by Eld. Jno. P. Shaffer, of Roanoke, from the text "*Ye must be born again.*"—John iii, 7.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Wednesday, Sept. 23rd, 1885; 1:30 o'clock.

The Association was called to order at 1:30 o'clock, P. M.

After singing the hymn,

"I love thy kingdom Lord,"

prayer was offered by Eld. R. H. Bullock, of the Western (Ga.) Association.

The Moderator requested Bros. T. J. Gilliland and I. T. Morgan to collect the Letters from the churches, and Eld. C. S. Johnson and N. D. Denson were asked to read the same before the body.

The following were enrolled as—

DELEGATES FROM THE CHURCHES.

Antioch.—T. J. Gilliland, W. B. Bledsoe, S. R. Woody, J. T. Hood, H. Landrum.

Beulah.—A. C. Bennett, P. H. McGinty, G. C. Roberts.

Bethlehem.—F. W. Shank, A. J. Ward, H. C. Hudson

Bethel (Lee.)—Robt. Graves, J. J. Pinnell, W. R. Rogers.

BETHEL (Chambers).—W. A. Burden, Robt. Wheeler, N. C. Causey.

CUSSETA.—R. B. Lumpkin, G. W. Shealy, J. B. Barrow.

COUNTY LINE.—I. T. Talbot, I. T. Morgan, J. H. Johnson, J. C. Talbot, J. M. Langley.

CAMP HILL.—J. W. Gunn, E. T. Slaughter.

DADEVILLE.—W D. Bulger, W. H. Payne, W. C. McIntosh, H. M. Wilson, J. P. Burnes.

EAGLE CREEK.—W. A. Jennings, Jas. Morgan, W. W. Clark.

FARMVILLE.—Henry Cooper, J. A. Shelton, J. T. Hester.

FELLOWSHIP.—T. A. Colley, H. F. Saxon, J. W. Dabbs, D. C. Huggins.

HICKORY FLAT.—(Represented by letter.)

LYSTRA.—J. C. Bonds, L. B. Austin, W. H. Bachus.

LIBERTY.—F. M. Handley, W. H. Stewart.

LEBANON.—A. F. Pless, D. L. Hamby, J. S. Gregory.

LAFAYETTE —J. T. Jones, S. J. Meadors, J. D. Norman, N. D. Denson, J. E. Scarbrough.

MILLTOWN.—W. N. Harris, A. S. Smith, J. M. Rotton, W. P. Mathews, Wm. Blackmon.

MT. ZION.—H. F. Smith, H. R. Cox, Jacob Lindsay.

MT. PLEASANT.—Jno. P. Seroyer, W. R. Dawson, W. E. Shealy.

NEW HOPE.—M. V. Maley, W. F. Fuller, R. A. Gaines, Wm. Reynolds, J. W. Cooper.

PROVIDENCE.—L. L. James, C. A. Shealy, J. P. Barrow.

PLEASANT RIDGE.—Thos. H. Black, R. H. Browning, W. C. Roeck.

ROANOKE.—G. W. Hill, I. G. Hill, H. M. Mickle, David Manley, F T. Manley.

ROCK SPRING —W. W. Still, Wm. Webb, W. F. Abernathy, L. L. Cole, G. W. Newman.

SHILOH.—J. R. Carroll, Jno. H. Turner, J. J. Clifton.

SANDY CREEK.—T. D. Lunsford, J. F. Reynolds, N. G. Brazill.

TALLAPOOSA.—J. M. Berry, R. M. Phillips, G. V. McComack, J. J. Phillips, L. L. Upsher.

The following preachers were present, members of the Association—:

Brewer, Geo. E.
Bledsoe, Jno. F.
Bledsoe, W. C.
Blackwelder, W. M.

Burden, C. J.
Cumbee, R A. J.
Cumbee, John.
Horsely, H. M.
Hunter, J. P.
Johnson, C. S.
McCarley, J. A.
Moon, D. S.
Shaffer, Jno. P.

OFFICERS:

Eld. J. F. Bledsoe, of the Mt. Pleasant church, was re-elected Moderator; Eld. W. C. Bledsoe, of the La Fayette church, was re-elected Clerk and Treasurer.

On motion the reading of the Abstract of Principles, Constitution, and Rules of Decorum was omitted.

The Moderator announced the following:

COMMITTEES TO REPORT AT THIS SESSION:

On Finance.—J. E. Scarbrough, Chairman; W. R. Dawson, F. M. Handley.

On Preaching.—I. T. Morgan, Chairman; W. F. Fuller, J. B. Barrow, and pastor and delegates of LaFayette church.

On Corresponding Letter.---Eld. W. M. Blackwelder.

On Nominations: To preach Introductory Sermon; Executive Committee: G. W. Shealy, Chairman; J. D. Norman, F. T. Manley.

On Deceased Ministers.---Eld. Jno. P. Shaffer, Chairman; J. P. Seroyer, Henry Johnson.

The Moderator called for Petitionary Letters. The Bethel church by the hands of her delegates presented a letter of dismission from the Rock Mills Association, which was read by the Clerk. On motion the Bethel church was received and the moderator extended to the delegates the hand of welcome and fellowship.

CORRESPONDENTS AND VISITING BRETHREN.

The Moderator called for correspondents from other Associations, and for visitors, corially inviting them to seats in the body.

The following were enrolled:

From the Western, (Ga.)--Elds. Robt. H. Harris, J. A. Wynn. R. H. Bullock; bros H. C. Nichols, W. H. Haralson.

From the Tuskegee.—Elds. Z. D. Roby, W. E. Lloyd; bros. A. N. Adams, E. Brewer.

FROM THE CAREY.—Elds. W. T. Davis, Cat Smith; bros. Robt. Griffin, W. B. Smith, W. J. L. Hood.

T. M. Bailey, D. D., Corresponding Secretary of the Alabama State Mission Board, I. T. Tichenor, D. D., Corresponding Secretary of the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, Dr. Robt. Frazier, President of the Judson Institute, and J. G. Harris, editor of the *Alabama Baptist*, were recognized in their official relation to the denomination and cordially welcomed by the Moderator.

Union Meetings were appointed. (See close of Minutes.)

The Association adjourned to 7:30, P. M.

Prayer by Eld. W. E. Lloyd.

MEMORIAL SERVICE.

Wednesday, Sept. 23rd, 7:30, P. M.

This hour was set apart for a "Memorial Service" in commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Association. Eld J. F. Bledsoe, by special appointment, preached a sermon well adapted to the occasion, before a very large and attentive congregation.

SECOND DAY—MORNING SESSION.

Thursday, Sept. 24th 1885, 8.30, A. M.

A half hour was pleasantly and profitably spent in a service of prayer and song, conducted by Dr. Bailey.

The minutes of yesterday were read and adopted, and the roll of delegates was corrected.

CORRESPONDENTS TO OTHER ASSOCIATIONS.

The following brethren were appointed:

TO THE TUSKEGEE.—Convenes Oct. 2nd, 1885, at Mt. Lebanon, Russell Co., Ala.—Elds. J. F. Bledsoe, C. S. Johnson; bros. G. C. Roberts, H. W. Garlington.

TO THE CAREY.—Convenes Oct. 2nd, 1885, at Miller Valley, Clay Co., Ala.— Elds. Jno. P. Shaffer, H. M. Horsely.

TO THE CENTRAL.—Convenes Sept. 30th, 1885, at Antioch, Elmore Co., Ala.—Elds. Jno. P. Shaffer, Geo. E. Brewer.

TO THE TALLAPOOSA.—Convenes on Thursday before 4th Sun-

day in Oct. 1885, at Beulah, Tallapoosa Co., Ala.—J. M. Berry, R. H. Browning, Eld. R. A. J. Cumbee.

To THE WESTERN, (GA.)—Convenes on Wednesday before the 1st Sunday in Oct. 1886, at White Oak Grove, Coweta Co., Ga.—Elds. G. E. Brewer, R. A. J. Cumbee; bros. J. T. Jones, S. J. Meadors, J. W. Cooper.

To THE ROCK MILLS.—Convenes Oct. 14th, 1885, at Macedonia, Randolph Co., Ala.—Eld. Geo. E. Brewer; bros. F. M. Handley, Wm. Reynolds, W. H. Stewart.

To THE BOWEN. (col)—(Time and place not given to clerk)—Bros. J. T. Hester, W. E. Shealy, J. P. Seroyer.

DELEGATES TO BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION.

The following brethren were appointed as delegates to the Alabama Baptist State Convention, that convenes at Birmingham, Ala., on Friday, July 16th, 1886. Elds. Jno. P. Shaffer, Geo. E. Brewer, W. C. Bledsoe, J. F. Bledsoe, C. J. Burden, R. A. J. Cumbee; bros. N. D. Denson, J. D. Norman, W. D. Bulger, Geo. W. Hill, J. W. Cooper, F. T. Manley, W. F. Fuller.

DELEGATES TO SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION.

On motion the Executive Committee was authorized to appoint five delegates to the Southern Baptist Convention and furnish said delegates with certificates of their appointment. The Convention meets at Montgomery, Ala., on Wednesday before the 3rd Sunday in May, 1886.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

Bro. W. D. Bulger, chairman, read the report on Education as follows:

Your Committee begs leave to report—:

To be like unto Christ is the prayerful desire and aspiration of every professed christian; while on earth Christ, the man God, in all his toils, sufferings, and death, left no trace of rude or rash sayings or cruel acts.

Wherefore we conclude that he whose soul is filled with the love of Christ, can approach the Saviour's image and be more like unto him, when he shall have pressed off as far as may be the rough and rude growths to which all natures are heir.

Education, moral and intellectual, is the accepted method of polishing men, like unto the means in the hands of men to polish the crude metals.

While young and tender, like the vegetable world, the mind is susceptible of being moulded for good or evil, as by precept and example it is taught.

Then, Brethren, we urge upon you to scrutinize closely the habits, examples, and character of him who proposes to mould the young and tender minds of your children. He who is unfit for an associate and model for the young is unfit and dangerous for a teacher of children.

Your children are precious gifts of God, and, as you value their souls, guard the training of mind and heart. Never lose sight of the holy purpose in educating your children! How can he who is a stranger to Christ mould the minds and hearts of the young to be like unto Him?

Man being selected as the instrument by the Father to teach the Scriptures to men. Jesus selected not only the unlettered fishermen, but the learned and powerful Saul of Tarsus as messengers, so that all classes of men might be reached. No less does the same necessity exist in our day, and the Father will ere long call from among those in our charge some to carry the message to their fellows. Shall they be prepared to accept the commission and render efficient service in their Master's cause. Let us act well our part and mould the heart and mind with as much christian symmetry as we can.

In this connection we recommend to the favorable consideration of the brethren our denominational schools the Howard and the Judson, in both of which we have beautifully blended the hearts and the mind's training. We also commend to the favorable consideration of our people the Central Female College, located at Tuscaloosa, Ala., presided over by our well known brother, G. W. Thomas, who has established so fine a reputation as an educator by his long continued labors in this direction, at Montgomery, the Capital of our State. The superiority of these institutions is demonstrated by the success attained by them of recent years.

We rejoice in the success of the Board of Ministerial Education during the past year. About 30 brethren with the ministry in view, were sustained, or helped, by this board while prosecuting their studies in the Howard and other schools in the State. Last year about two thousand dollars were raised for that purpose.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. D. BULGER,
Chairman.

The report was discussed by Eld. Jno. P. Shaffer and Dr. Frazer. Pending the discussion, the Association adjourned to 1.30. P. M.

By appointment of the Committee on Preaching. Eld. R. H Harris, of La Grange, Ga., conducted the service at 11 o'clock. He

preached to a full house from the text:—"*Scarcely saved*".— 1 Peter, iv. 18.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

1.30 o'clock, P. M.

The Association was called to order by the moderator. The hymn,

"Jesus, lover of my soul,"

was sung; prayer was offered by Eld. C. S. Johnson.

Minutes of the morning session were read and adopted.

The discussion of the report on Education was continued by Elds. R H Harris, G. E. Brewer, I. T. Tichenor, T. M. Bailey and bros. W. D. Bulger, and J. G. Harris. The report was adopted.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

The report on Sunday Schools was read by the chairman, Eld. W. C. Bledsoe, as follows

There are sixteen Sunday Schools in this Association of twenty-seven churches, with an enrollment of about nine hundred scholars and about eighty teachers. These schools contribute on an average a little over ten dollars each to missions. This showing is encouraging, but its value is greatly depreciated by the consideration of the poor character of much that is called Sunday School work With many teachers and scholars the Sunday-school service is a spiritless routine, lacking every element of successful work. We desire to emphasize the statement that machine work, since it does not come from the heart, never reaches the heart, and it is as fruitless as it is heartless.

Permit us to mention some considerations calculated to awaken greater interest in this subject:

1. *What is a Sunday-School?* It is the church studying God's Word and teaching it to others—in short, it is a church-school. The failure upon the part of many to apprehend the unity of church and Sunday School work, causes much indifference and neglect. The truth is, that the obligations resting upon every lover of Jesus, if properly recognized, carry him irresistibly into this field of christian labor.

2. *What is Sunday-School work designed to accomplish?* (a.) Learning the doctrines of God's Word; (b.) teaching these doctrines to others; (c.) training our membership, especially the young, so that they may develop the highest type of christian character.

It is the conviction of your committee that few of our churches recognize the importance of Sunday-school work, and this is the reason why churches have no schools, and, also, the reason of the inefficiency of much of the

work done. Dear brethren, we commend a prayerful weighing of these things, for there is great need for a general awakening on this subject. If pastors are failing to impress the churches with their duty (and we fear some are so failing), let them fail no longer; if brethren and sisters are careless and indifferent (and we know many are), let them be careless and indifferent no longer. We would not detract in the least from the influence of the stated ministrations of the pulpit, nor from the pastoral labors around the hearth-stone, yet we do insist that we must not neglect the opportunities given in the Sunday-school to lead the unconverted to the Savior, to impress divine truth, and to train and develop christian character. To be negligent is to be guilty. Let not this sin be brought against us.

W. C. BLEDSOE,
Chairman.

The report was discussed by Elds. W. C. Bledsoe, J. P. Shaffer, T. M. Bailey; bros. Henry Johnson, Geo. Hill, G. W. Shealy, J. M. Berry, W. D. Bulger and others.

The report was adopted.

The Association adjourned to 7.30 o'clock, P. M.

Prayer by Eld. W. E. Lloyd.

EVENING SESSION.

The Association met at 7.30, P. M., and was called to order by the moderator. The hymn,

"The morning light is breaking,"

was sung; prayer was offered by Eld. Jno. P. Shaffer.

This evening's session was set apart for a "Missionary Mass Meeting" and a large congregation assembled.

The Reports on State, Home and Foreign missions were read, in the order named, by the chairmen of the respective committees, as follows:

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS.

Our State Mission board was organized at Huntsville in the year 1875, and hence concluded its first decade at the meeting of the Convention in Tuskegee in July last. For Alabama's development the State Board has indeed been a grand instrumentality. In 1875 only 19 Associations were connected with the Convention. At the meeting of the Convention in Huntsville in 1875, 11 Associations and 37 churches were represented by 100 delegates. At the meeting of the Convention in 1884, 40 Associations and 67 churches were represented by 273 delegates. During the past decade the benevolence of the Baptists of Alabama has been increased threefold. Ten years ago our statistics were so imperfect that our numerical

strength was unknown, as well as many other important facts to the denomination.

Alabama Baptists owe much to our statistical secretary, B. B. Davis, for his untiring labors in compiling statistics for the denomination. His tables are very fine and quite correct. To our corresponding secretary, T. M. Bailey, we are indebted for ten years of the most faithful and indefatigable labor ever rendered the denomination in Alabama.

During the past year 27,197 sermons and addresses have been delivered by the Missionaries of the Board. Total additions to the churches, 6,578 Sunday Schools organized, 1,138. Ladies' Missionary Societies, 49. Miles traveled by our Missionaries, 357,642. Books sold, 29,134, valued at $12,-490.60. More than 200,000 pages of tracts have been distributed, and we have permanent colportage funds for continuing our work, amounting to more than $2,000. The cost of the work for ten years past, $82,462.87. Our colportage work was much in demand in the State, and is one of the most successful departments of our work. During last year sales and gifts amounted to $2,748.02. Last year the Board employed part or all of the services of 81 men, among them, two colored brethren. The Board expended last year, on State Missions, $10,046.86. Double that amount might have been expended in Alabama, much to the glory of the Master and the good of the denomination.

Our State work is of the very first importance to us. We are more responsible for results in this field than any other, and are under more obligations to cultivate it.

The development of our brethren in Alabama will determine their usefulness for the Master and humanity, on all fields, and in all work, at home and abroad. Let us then not underrate our State Mission work. It should not be forgotten that Alabama has undertaken to do all her Mission work, which was once done by the Home Board, and hence she must appropriate a sum of money adequate to the work. Under our present plan, funds contributed for Home Missions will be expended beyond Alabama, in other States and among the Indians. I do not make this statement to interfere with collections for the Home Board, nor to its discredit in any way, but to have our Mission work understood, as it is, so far as Alabama is concerned. Many brethren and some churches think that Home Misssions means work in our State They get the State Board and the Home Board into their heads as one and the same Board. If they want to send money for mission work in Alabama, they direct it in their letter for Home Missions, when they really mean State Missions.

Let us thank God for the increasing benevolence of our brethren, and for the privilege which we enjoy of working in His vineyard. May we all work more earnestly on all fields than we have done, is the prayer of your Committee.

Jno. P Shafeer,
Chairman.

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS.

Your Committee begs leave to submit the following report:

The Board located at Atlanta, Ga., which has for its Secretary Dr. I. T. Tichenor, and which is zealously at work pushing forward this great interest, is extending the work of the Home Board as well as increasing its receipts. For the last Conventional year it had in its employ 185 missionaries, an increase over the year previous of 41; these missionaries preached at 426 stations, they spent 4061 weeks of labor, delivered 17,039 sermons and addresses, attended 2,840 prayer meetings, baptized 2931, received by letter 1733; Total additions 4964, Sunday Schools reported 173, teachers and pupils 6,104, traveled 164,937 miles, made 22,818 religious visits, aided in building 14 church houses and constituted 53 churches. In Arkansas, Louisiana, Florida, Texas, North Carolina, and among the Indians, the Home Board is doing an extensive work. In New Orleans the Board is working with brighter prospects than ever before, opening up new mission stations.

New fields are constantly opening up to this Board, and the rapid progress of events, especially in the West, is making constant demands upon the Home Board for men and means.

This Board is doing a great work, one that ought to commend itself to every Baptist in this southern land of ours. We certainly live in a day of wonderful progress. Shall the church of our Lord not be fully awakened and stimulated by the truths of the gospel as the grand agencies ordained by the Master for our whole duty, as christians, to do our part in this work. All of which is respectfully submitted.

R. A. J. Cumbee,
Chairman.

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

This world belongs to our Lord Jesus Christ, the gift of the Father to the Son. When he came to it, in h man flesh, near two thousand years ago claiming to be the inheritor, the generation then holding it in trust conspired against him and put him to death. Jesus sadly referred to their act when he said, "now is the Prince of this world cast out." But being raised from the dead, those who believed in him "were begotten again to a lively hope by the resurrection from the dead." Jesus the Christ appeared to them after the resurrection, reasserted his claim, declared his purpose to return and take possession in due time, and commanded them to be witnesses for him until his return. In the meantime all will be regarded as rebels and enemies who do not believe upon him, acknowledge and serve him, and will be banished forever from his domain when he comes to reign in glory over it, while those who acknowledge him now and serve in the way he demands, will live with him then in a like glorified body. Accompanying all this is a promise of forgiveness of sins, purification of

heart and life, and a complete investiture with eternal life and all that will make it enjoyable to those who receive him.

The world is largely ignorant of these all important truths. This ignorance will not insure the blessing, or turn aside the sad doom of rebellion. Why should it? There is nothing among men or in nature that would indicate that ignorance should be so rewarded. Nevertheless, pity should stir the hearts of those who do know, so as to make them put forth effort to dispel this ignorance, and invite to the promised blessings from an accepted knowledge. *Jesus was thus stirred*, and seizing upon the tendency of human nature to cherish fondly last words of loved ones, and the effort to do what is requested in such farewell words, when he last stood visibly among his believing followers, pronouncing his parting blessing upon them, he said, "Go ye into all the world and preach my gospel to every creature." Faithfully did his first disciples carry out this parting injunction, taking thankfully the spoiling of their goods in its accomplishment. Most unfaithful have most of succeeding generations been.

In recent years there has been some revival of this spirit, and with thankfulness do we hail its present growth. Most hopefully do we look for the speedy recognition on the part of christians of the fact that all human beings are of one blood, and equally entitled to know this truth of truths, and a revival of the prayer to God to send forth laborers into the field, and a determination on the part of those who do not go forth as laborers, to sustain those who say, "here am I, send me."

The Southern Baptist Convention, representing the largest Baptist constituency in the world, is doing less than any of the denominations of prominence in the great work of giving the gospel to the foreign world, even less than the little band known as Moravians.

The Presbyterians (North) gave last year $693,000, or $1.12 per member for this work. The Congregationalists $552,000, or $1.36 per member. The Methodist Episcopal Church $338,000, or 21 cts. per member. The Missionary Union (Baptists North) $328,000, or 46 cts. per member. The Moravians $240,000, or $4,47 per member. The Southern Baptist Convention $80,000. or 8 cts. per member, a less sum than the poorest member ought to contribute.

In the number of native communicants the Baptists lead the others. The Missionary Union have 112,000 native communicants as the result of their labors. The Northern Methodists 34,000. The Moravians 28,000. The Presbyterians 20,000. The Congregationalists 21,000. The Southern Baptists 1,323.

During the conventional year of the Southern Baptist Convention, closing April 30th, 1885, there were employed in the work

In Mexico

fifteen missionaries and native workers. There were baptized and received by letter 90. Total membership 190. Since the Convention Bro. Powell has baptized about 40, besides those baptized by others. Some troubles

have arisen by the bitter opposition of Catholics and others, but it does not retard the work. The schools established are doing well.

THE BRAZILIAN MISSION

had 8 missionaries and native workers. Baptized 27, membership 113. Several have been baptized since the Convention.

THE CHINA MISSION

had 55 missionaries and active workers. Baptized 34, membership 615. Several have been baptized since the Convention. The French war has interfered with the work, but that is now ended. Two of the missionaries have died, sister Pruitt before the convention, and sister Holcombe since.

THE AFRICAN MISSION.

had 16 missionaries and native assistants. Baptized 7, membership 125. There have been some baptisms since the convention. Sister David died quite recently, and her last words were "do not give up Africa."

THE ITALIAN MISSION

had 13 missionaries and native assistants. Baptized 35, membership 250. There have been some baptisms here also since the convention. Bro. G. B. Taylor has resigned his place and returned to Virginia. Bro. Eager was quite sick at last accounts.

The 80,000 white Baptists of Alabama gave last year for Foreign Missions $2,150, or 2½ cts. per member. During the past month only $19 was contributed to the Board from Alabama, or two hundreths of a mill per member. It is pleasant, however, to state that this Association is above that low average for the year, as hers was an average of 9 cts. per member. But what is that for a cause that involves the eternal interests of so many millions of our race?

Brethren let us arouse ourselves to a higher conception of our obligation to give the gospel to those dwelling in darkness, and make more liberal contributions of our substance for the work.

In the opinion of your committee our contributions to foreign work ought at least to equal the amount given to supply the destitution in our own land, where there are but few who could not hear the gospel if they would and will not when they can. May the time soon come when we shall cease to give for so holy a purpose as the evangelization of the world a pittance such as we would be almost ashamed to offer a poor suffering beggar. How humiliating and dishonoring is such parsimony toward God, the Bountiful Giver of all we have. Respectfully submitted.

GEO. E. BREWER,
Chairman.

The reports were discussed by Elds. W. C. Bledsoe, W. E. Lloyd, J. P. Shaffer. Z. D. Roby, G. E. Brewer, I. T. Tichenor, R. A. J. Cumbee.

After the discussion a collection was taken amounting to $30.
The reports were adopted.
The Association adjourned to 8:30, to-morrow morning.
Prayer by Eld. R. A. J. Cumbee.

THIRD DAY—MORNING SESSION.

Friday, Sept. 25th, 1885, 8:30, A. M.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment.
A half hour was spent in religious exercises.

The business of the Association was resumed and the chairman, Eld. C. S. Johnson, read the

REPORT ON RELIGIOUS LITERATURE.

This is pre-eminently a reading age. Steam, electricity, and the printing press bring the different peoples and individuals of the earth with their heterogeneous acts, thoughts, morals, and characters, into juxtaposition. Tides of literature, good, bad, and indifferent, surge through the mails into every family. The secular press thrusts its literature, however heretical and pernicious, into the presence of our families and church members; and through these presses twenty Baptists are reading Jones and Talmage to every one that is reading Spurgeon or other Baptist authors. Pugilistic combats, base-ball contests, crimes and intrigue, with all their daily details, sensational sermons and the vagaries of professional revivalists, so-called—all are set in parallel columns, and with baleful influence are blasting the morals of the young and retarding the spiritual growth of all who read them. We contemplate what we read, and we are, in a great measure, what we contemplate. "When He (God) appears we shall be like him, for (because) we shall see (i. e. contemplate) Him as He is." We need the copious distribution of a sound christian literature, with an improved system and practice of religious reading among our church membership, next to the preaching of the gospel itself. The great doctrines of grace must be printed, circulated, read and contemplated, as well as preached. We must have experimental literature—books, pamphlets, tracts and leaflets, a literature to encourage the dejected, a literature framed by the intellect, fired by the heart, and written on the knees. We believe our state paper under its present management, if it receives the intellectual, moral and material support of our people as it ought to do, will largely supply our wants in this direction. Therefore, we heartily endorse the *Alabama Baptist*, earnestly recommend it to our brethren, and ask our pastors to strive to put it into the hands of every Baptist in the Association. It is our paper and will be what we make it. It is the organ of the Baptist brotherhood of the state, the only means of general

communication among our people, and ought to be in every Baptist family. We recommend that each church be requested to state in its letter to the Association the number of its members that are subscribers for the *Alabama Baptist*. We feel that we cannot speak in terms too commendatory of the *Christian Index*. We regard it as one of the safest and most influential of all our denominational organs, and its editor-in-chief, Dr. H. H. Tucker, has in our judgment no superior as a sound, able, and effective editor. The *Foreign Mission Journal* is an organ without which no reading Baptist of the Association can well afford to live. We call attention to *Kind Words*, a well edited Sunday School paper published at Macon, Ga. We would have our Sunday Schools patronize the American Baptist Publication Society at Philadelphia; we cannot say more for this society, but would ask our brethren to study the magnitude of its blessings and benefits to our people.

C. S. JOHNSON,
Chairman.

The report was discussed by Dr. Tichenor, Dr. Roby, J. G. Harris, and R. H. Bullock.

The report was adopted.

The regular order of business was suspended to allow Eld. W. C. Bledsoe to make a statement in regard to the publication of "The History of the Liberty Baptist Association." Bro. Bledsoe said that brethren interested in the enterprise must help him to get the book published by paying for copies in advance. After some remarks by Eld. Shaffer, two hundred and fifty copies were subscribed for, *with the understanding that the money would be placed in the hands of Bro. Bledsoe by Dec. 25th, 1885.* Upon this understanding Bro. Bledsoe stated that he would deliver the book during the coming spring. (The price of this volume will be $1.00. I want two hundred and fifty more subscribers. Let me hear from you, brethren.—W. C. B.)

Bro. Henry Johnson, chairman, read the

REPORT ON BIBLE AND COLPORTAGE WORK.

Our Secretary reports to the last Baptist State Convention some twenty-six permanent colportage funds, amounting in the aggregate to $1967.80. Add to this a balance of $246.21 and we have invested in this work during last year 2214.01. Operating upon this there were sold and given away 6326 books and pamphlets worth $2748.02. There have been sold in the

Liberty Association, by our colporteur about 500 books valued at $535.82, and orders secured for others amounting to $390.00.

The true worth of this number of good books read by our people cannot be estimated in dollars. No investment is safer, and none from which we may expect richer and more continuous returns. We are glad to report that there seems to be a spirit in our churches and Sunday Schools to do more in this field of christian duty, especially in Bible work.

That the Holy Scriptures are the only means of enabling men to become wise unto salvation; and that it is the duty of Christians to furnish this means, are facts so fully conceded that we deem it unnecessary to enlarge upon them here. There is one fact, however, to which we wish to call your attention, and that is: upon the Bible in its book form—upon Bible reading depends the success of every effort to extend Christ's Kingdom on earth. However forcibly the things of nature may impress men that there is a supreme Being; and however important to declare from the pulpit the unsearchable riches of Christ, yet we think the developing Holy Spirit reveals himself in his enlightening and converting power only where the Holy Book exists and is read. In proof of this we refer to the fact that in christian lands, those who study the scriptures more, make the greater spiritual progress, and in heathen countries no converts are made until a sufficient time has elapsed for the Bible to be given and read. The divine command "Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations," makes it as much our duty to send the written gospel, as to give it through the living ministry.

In discharging our duty in the field of Bible work, your committee would urge the further duty of doing so through the American Baptist Publication Society. This society has cheerfully responded to the calls of our State Board for Bibles to be given away, and has recently donated to our Foreign Board $1000.00 for the prosecution of Bible work in its territory. In former years Baptists have made themselves dependent upon other Societies, controlled by other Associations for a supply of the scriptures. Some two years ago a convention of leading American Baptists saw fit to direct the attention of the denomination to their own society. In this we think they were obeying the instructions of a higher power. We believe the same Providence that used Dr. Judson as an instrument in awakening and drawing to a focus the spirit of American Baptist Missions, has made his work the means of impressing upon Baptists the necessity for dependency for Bibles upon themselves. And seeing the rich blessings bestowed upon following his lead in the one, should encourage us to follow faithfully his directions in the other. Deeply grateful to our Heavenly Father for his guidance in the past, let us not fail, through the channel we believe he has pointed out, to give to the world the pure word of life, in His name and for His glory.

Respectfully submitted.

J. H. JOHNSON,
Chairman.

Pending the discussion, the Association adjourned to 1:30, P. M.

SERVICES AT 11 O'CLOCK.

Eld. J. A. Wynn, of the Western (Ga.) Association, preached at 11 o'clock. Text: "*Ye are the light of the world.*" "*Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in Heaven.*"—Matt. v, 14, 16.

THIRD DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

1:30, P. M.

The Association met according to adjournment. The hymn,

"What a friend we have in Jesus,"

was sung, and Dr. I. T. Tichenor led in prayer.

The report on Bible and Colportage work was resumed. The Moderator, Eld. J. F. Bledsoe, with Eld. R. A. J. Cumbee in the chair, participated in the discussion; also Elds. Roby and Shaffer.

The report was adopted.

Elder W. M. Blackwelder, chairman, read the

REPORT ON STATE OF RELIGION.

The facts presented in the letters from the several churches seem to justify the statement, that the religious condition of the churches, as compared with the past, is encouraging. The general religious feeling seems to indicate a gradual moving forward. While this we note with pleasure, it is a fact we are far below what we should be. There is a sad want of vigorous spiritual life. The responsibilities upon the christian as the representative of Christ, are not realized by many in our churches. Worship is often mechanical and artificial.

What shall be done to raise to a higher fervor the peculiar christian graces? Your committee would suggest as conducive to this end: 1st, An oftener meeting together at the church for the worship of God. Most of our churches have preaching but once a month. A strong christian fellowship and warm brotherly love can not by such means be maintained. Nor can effective organization in church work by such means be secured.

2nd. Prayerful and constant study of the word of God at home and in the Sunday School.

3rd. Carefully guarding the purity of the church.

4th. Consecration, daily, hourly, absolute consecration, the consecration of an Apostle who cried, "One thing I do."

5th. Recognition and realization of the church's high calling and duty to the evangelization of the world.

If the churches are what they should be; if they would outshine, outstrip, outwork and conquer the world; if she would pull down the strongholds of sin and Satan, she must baptize herself with love, penetrated by the spirit of devotion, and be clothed with the power of God. She must burst asunder every band of restriction and every cord of hindrance. Then, not till then, will she move to deeds worthy of her calling. Then, not till then, will she march to the music of victory. Then, not till then, will we be willing with holy audacity to press into the thickest and hottest of the fight and attack the strong fortresses of the foe. Submitted.

W. M. BLACKWELDER,
Chairman.

The report was discussed by Elds. Brewer and Tichenor.

The report was adopted.

Geo W. Shealey, chairman, read the

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Your committee beg leave to submit the following:

Since our last Association this subject has been much discussed While we have failed to root this greatest probably of all other evils, intoxicating liquors, out of our county by a vote of the people, yet good has been accomplished. While prejudice, the carnal appetite, and the greed of gain have been the great barriers, but we doubt not but that many have been awakened to a realization of their true condition and sin into which they have fallen.

Personal efforts have done much to awaken an interest upon this subject and have been the means of accomplishing great and permanent good. Thousands have been reclaimed from lives of drunkenness and despair. Now if personal efforts and temperance organization have accomplished much what can the church of Christ accomplish in this direction? Whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world; and this is the victory that overcometh the world even our faith. The church is the light of the world. Are we all letting our light shine in this direction?

Suppose all church members would denounce this evil by example and precept, and in faith carry this evil to Christ; what would become of this liquor traffic in our midst? We are glad to say there has been improvement on this subject, (but it need not take half a century to get rid of this curse) yet we are sorry to say that we have some church members who do not seem to think that it is wrong to drink with the drunken, who visit drinking saloons, thereby impressing the world that the traffic of this great evil has the sanction of the church. Let each of us rise above this. Would to God that every church member would firmly vow never to use intoxicating liquors as a beverage. Respectfully submitted,

GEO. W. SHEALY,
Chairman.

The report was discussed by Elds. Johnson, Wynn, and Bullock.

The report was adopted.

The report on Deceased Ministers was not ready to submit to the body, and on motion the chairman was allowed to forward the same to the Clerk after adjournment.

The report is here inserted:

REPORT ON DECEASED MINISTERS.

Your committee find by examination of the letters from the churches, that two deaths have occurred amongst the ministers of the Association this year.

The letter from Roanoke church reports the decease of Eld. C. P. Sisson.

Eld. Charles P. Sisson was born in Savannah, Ga., Nov. 16th, 1821, and departed this life at Roanoke, Randolph County, Ala., on the 2nd day of March, 1885.

Eld. Sisson belonged to an old English family of considerable respectability, and received a liberal academic education. His early life was spent largely at sea, during which time he visited England, France, Spain, Mexico, and the West India islands. He finally gave up sea life and settled in the state of Georgia. He married Miss Susan Peyton, Dec. 25th, 1842, and soon after was converted to the christian religion, was baptized by Eld. Henry Collins, and became a member of the church at Willow, in Cobb county, Ga. Soon after he removed to the state of Alabama, and settled in the western part of Chambers county. He was afterward licensed to preach, Oct 25th, 1851, and preached his first sermon at Rock Spring church in this Association. He was ordained to the gospel ministry in 1853 and soon after removed to the village of Wesobulga, in Talladega county, Ala.,—now Clay county.

He was intimately connected with the organization of the Carey Association, and with its work during its first decade, indeed the prime of his life, as a minister, was spent in the field and work of the Carey Association. He also labored in this Association, both in the early and latter days of his ministry. Eld. Sisson was a man of considerable mental vigor, and ranked well as a preacher.

During his last years he was under appointment of the Alabama Baptist State Board, as Missionary and Colporteur for the Liberty (East) Association.

The venerable father and brother in our Lord has finished his work on earth, and his mortal remains are in the cemetery of the Baptist church at Roanoke.

The Master called him, and without a murmur he gave up this life and crossed the flood to join the hosts of the Lord on the other side.

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.

We are called upon, also to chronicle the death of our venerable brother in the ministry, Eld. W. A. Hunter.

Eld. Hunter was born April 16th, 1802. He united with the church at Bethesda, in Green county, Ga., in 1825, and was licensed to preach at Bethel church in Chambers county, Ala., Feb. 22nd, 1834. He was afterward ordained to the full work of the ministry at County Line church, Feb. 11th, 1841, Elds. Francis Calloway, and Benjamin Wilson being the presbytery. He died at his home in Chambers county, Ala., Jan. 13th, 1885.

Eld. Hunter was the last surviving preacher, so far as your committee has been able to ascertain, who was present fifty years ago at the organization of this Association; and we had hoped that the Master would spare him to be present to-day, but divine wisdom and love has determined otherwise and he has been called to the blessed rest of Heaven. In those early days of our history Eld. Hunter was vigorous and active, and for many years filled important pastorates, doing faithful work. His gifts as a preacher were hortatory rather than exegetical, and he greatly loved to talk to the people upon experimental religion. In the latter years of his life he was much enfeebled in body, but held steadfastly to that faith which had been the stay and comfort of his long pilgrimage on earth. He passed quietly away and entered upon that life above which will never be darkened by death or polluted by sin.

In concluding this report upon the death of these two brethren, we are reminded that God's servants are passing away, and that it behooves us to pray to the Lord that he may send more laborers into the harvest.

Respectfully submitted,

Jno. P. SHAFFER,

Chairman.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The report of Finance Committee was read and adopted.

The Churches have sent as follows:

For Minutes,	$ 76.90
For Aged and Infirm Ministers,	146.45
For Church Extension,	47.15
For Home Missions,	117.78
For Foreign Missions,	340.32
For Indian Missions,	10.00
For Bible and Colportage work,	85.40
For Ministerial Education,	127.50
For State Board,	532.38
For Evangelizing the Colored People	28.00
Public Collection, $30,) $10 to each Board)	30.00
Total,	$1541.88

We have examined your Treasurer's report for the Session of 1884, and find it correct, and proper vouchers accompanying the same.

J. E. SCARBROUGH,
Chairman.

The report on Nominations was read and adopted.

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

Your committee on nominations beg leave to report that we have nominated Eld. Geo. E. Brewer to preach the introductory sermon at the next meeting of the Association, and Rev. W. M. Blackwelder alternate.

We have nominated as Executive Committee, Bros. S. J. Meadows, J. H. Johnson, J. B Barrow, Arnold Smith, William Fuller, John Hester, F. W. Shanks, and George Hill.

Respectfully,

G. W. SHEALY,
Chairman.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

On motion the Committee on Deceased Ministers was made one of the standing committees.

On motion Bethel church was placed in the 1st District.

On motion it was determined to hold the next session of the Association with the Providence church, Chambers Co., Ala, beginning on Wednesday before the 4th Sunday in September. 1886.

On motion the Clerk was allowed $25.00 for his services.

On motion the thanks of the Association were tendered the citizens of La Fayette and vicinity for their generous hospitality.

The Corresponding Letter was read and adopted. (See close of minutes.—Clerk.)

The moderator announced the Standing Committees.—(See close of minutes.)

The delegates from the churches were asked to name the amount that each church would try to send up to the next Association to aid the various objects fostered by the denomination. The following churches responded:

Beulah,	$ 50.00	New Hope,	$100.00
Bethlehem,	60.00	Roanoke,	100.00
Cusseta,	100.00	Milltown,	50.00
Providence.	100.00	Mt. Zion,	5.00

La Fayette,	200.00	Camp Hill,	10.00
Antioch,	50.00	Tallapoosa,	40.00
Rock Spring,	25.00	Pleasant Ridge	12.00
County Line,	135.00	Bethel (Lee)	50.00
Mt. Pleasant,	75.00	Bethel (Chambers)	25 00
Farmville,	30.00	Lebanon,	10.00
Dadeville,	100.00	Total,	$762.00

(The above list was made in the closing hour of the session when the delegates from many of the churches were absent.)

The Association then adjourned to meet with the Providence church, Chambers Co., Ala., on Wednesday before the 4th Sunday in Sept., 1886. The song,

"Sweet bye and bye,"

was sung and the hand of parting given.

Prayer by Eld. Jno. P. Shaffer.

J. F. BLEDSOE,
Moderator.

W. C. BLEDSOE,
Clerk.

CORRESPONDING LETTER.

DEAR BRETHREN:—Our anticipations of a pleasant and profitable meeting of the fiftieth anniversary of our Association have been fully realized. The spirit of the Lord prevailed, as was evinced by the unbroken harmony and brotherly love which abounded in all the sessions. We have all felt that it was good to be present. We hope our love for the Master's cause has been intensified and our zeal increased.

We have received with pleasure your correspondents, and in return have appointed brethren to attend your meeting.

The next session of our body will be held with the church at Providence, commencing on Wednesday before the 4th Sunday in September, 1886.

J. F. BLEDSOE,
Moderator.

W. C. BLEDSOE,
Clerk.

COMMITTEES TO REPORT AT SESSION OF 1886.

ON STATE MISSIONS.—Eld. W. C. Bledsoe, chairman; F. W. Shank, R. B. Lumpkin, M. V. Maley, and J. P. Barrow.

On Home Missions.—Eld. C. J. Burden, chairman; A. C. Bennett, J. M Rotton, G. W. Hill, and J. J. Clifford.

On Foreign Missions.—Eld. R. A. J. Cumbee, chairman; J. C. Bonds, Wm. Webb, H. F. Smith, and I. T. Morgan.

On Sunday Schools.—Eld. J. P. Shaffer, chairman; S. J. Meadows, T. J. Gilliland, Henry Johnson, J. T. Hood.

On Temperance.—Bro. W. D. Bulger, chairman; Jno. P. Sceroyer, Jno. T. Hester. J. M. Berry, W. A. Burden.

State of Religion.—Eld. Arnold S. Smith, chairman; Wm. Reynolds, W. N. Harris, W H. Bachus, L. L. Cole.

Religious Literature.—Bro. N. D. Denson, chairman; W. B. Bledsoe, R. M. Phillips, W. W. Still, J. D. Norman.

Education.—Eld. C. S. Johnson, chairman; G. W. Shealy, J. B. Barrow, D. Manley.

Bible Work and Colportage.—Eld. G. E. Brewer, chairman; W. R. Dawson, Jas. T. Jones, Robt. Graves, T. D. Lunsford.

On Deceased Ministers.—S. J. Meadows, chairman; W. H. Stewart, W. D. Bulger, G. W. Shealy, L. L. James.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

Brewer, Geo. E.,	LaFayette,	Ala.
Bledsoe, W. C.,	"	"
Bedell, W. H.,	Waverly,	"
Bledsoe, J. F.,	Camp Hill,	"
Blackwelder, W. M.,	Dudleyville,	Ala.
Burden, C. J.,	Stroud,	Ala.
Cumbee, John,	Hickory Flat	"
Cumbee, R. A. J.,	Dadeville,	"
Fargason, T. B.,	"	"
Forehand, B.,	"	"
Horsely, H. M.,	Dudleyville,	"
Hunter, J. P.,	LaFayette,	"
Johnson, C. S.,	Beulah	"
Moon, D S.,	Milltown,	"
McCarley, J. A.,	LaFayette,	"
Moss, F. H.,	Dudleyville,	"
Robertson, W.,	Dadeville,	"
Stroud, L. B,	"	"

Shaffer, J. P.. Roanoke, Ala.
Sorrells, M. J., West Point, Ga.
Veazy, H. Y.. Dadeville, Ala.

LICENSED MINISTERS.

Dawson, Ora, Camp Hill, Ala.
Garlington, H., La Fayette, Ala.
Hamner, J. W.
Smith, A. S., Milltown, Ala.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS.

B. F Fargason,	Dadeville,	Ala.
W. D. Bulger,	"	"
Geo. C. Roberts,	Beulah,	"
G. W. Shealy,	Cusseta,	"
C. A. Shealy,	West Point,	Ga.
C. Cook,	Fredonia,	Ala.
J. F Barron,	Roanoke,	"
A. S. Smith,	Milltown,	"
W. C Bledsoe,	La Fayette,	"
J. T. Hood,	"	"
G. W. Newman,	"	"
W. R. Dawson,	Camp Hill,	"
L. L. Cooper,	Auburn,	"
T. J. Gann,	Camp Hill,	"
H. B. Hamner,	Waverly,	"
J. M. Berry,	Jackson's Gap,	"
H. Y. Veazy,	Dadeville,	"

UNION MEETINGS.

First District.—With Beulah church, commencing on Friday before the 5th Sunday in August, 1886. To attend:—Eld. J. F. Bledsoe.

Second District.—With Milltown church, commencing on Friday before the 5th Sunday in May, 1886. To attend:—Eids. J. F. Bledsoe, J. P. Shaffer, and W. C. Bledsoe.

Third District.—With County Line church, commencing on

Friday before the 5th Sunday in May, 1886. To attend:—Eld. R. A. J. Cumbee.

FOURTH DISTRICT.—With Tallapoosa church, commencing on Friday before the 5th Sunday in August, 1886. To attend:—Eld. Geo. E. Brewer.

ASSOCIATIONAL DISTRICTS.

FIRST DISTRICT.—Beulah, Bethel, (Chambers) Bethlehem, Cusseta, Providence, New Hope, Hickory Flat, and Roanoke.

SECOND DISTRICT.—Milltown, Lystra, Liberty, Shiloh, Lebanon, and Mt. Zion.

THIRD DISTRICT.—La Fayette, Antioch, Rock Spring, County Line, Mt. Pleasant, and Farmville.

FOURTH DISTRICT.—Dadeville, Camp Hill, Tallapoosa, Eagle Creek, Sandy Creek, Pleasant Ridge, Bethel, (Lee), Fellowship.

FINANCE TABLE.

	For the Boards of S. Baptist Convention			For State Board of Alabama Baptist Convention					Minutes	Total
	Home Mis'ns	For'gn Mis'ns	Ch'ch Exten	State Mi'ns	Col & B.w'k	Aged Mi'rs	Min'l Ed't'n	Evan C p'le		
Antioch	$ 10	$ 10 60	$	$ 9 10	$	$ 6 50	$ 5	$	$ 3	*$ 44 20*
Beulah				20					2 50	*22 50*
Bethlehem	10	10		20		10	10		3	*63 00*
Bethel				20					1 50	*21 50*
Bethel		26 50		2		6 50	5		3 25	*43 25*
Cusseta	22 58	12 38		59 37		10			3	*107 33*
County Line	10	50	5	38 15	5 30	26 30	46 50		5	*186 25*
Camp Hill		10							2	*12 00*
Dadeville	7	10	5	40	5				3	*70 00*
Eagle Creek									3	*3 00*
Farmville	10 25	11 65		15 90		2 20			3 30	*43 30*
Fellowship				3 50		3 05		8	3	*17 55*
Hickory Flat				6 50					1 50	*8 00*
Lystra	3 05	2 10							2	*7 15*
Liberty	2	2	2	5	2	3	4		1 50	*21 50*
Lebanon		5		5					2 50	*12 50*
La Fayette	10 10	54 44	30 15	83 60	57 35	10	11	10	5	*271 64*
Milltown		15		15	2 50	1 65	5		2 10	*41 25*
Mt. Zion		2 50		2 50					1 55	*6 55*
Mt. Pleasant	25 00	15		27	3 50	6 50	10		3 00	*90 00*
New Hope	7 75	10		43		2	5		3 20	*70 95*
Providence		35	5	35	5	5	10	5	3 00	*103 00*
Pleasant Rindge				12 55					2 50	*15 05*
Roanoke		20 60		33 25		46 15	15	5	5 00	*125 00*
Rock Spring	7 55	18 50		16 46	1 25	6 60			3 00	*53 36*
Shiloh				2	1 00	1	1		1 50	*6 50*
Sandy Creek	2 50	2 50		2 50	2 50				2 00	*12 00*
Tallapoosa		16 55		15					2 00	*33 55*
Total	137 78	250 32	47 15	532 38	85 40	146 45	127 50	28 00	76 90	*1511 88*

CHURCH DIRECTORY.

CHURCHES	COUNTIES	POST OFFICES	Meeting day	PASTORS	CLERKS
Antioch -	Chambers	La Fayette	4	W. M. Blackwelder	J. B. Strozier
Beulah -	Lee	Beulah -	3	C. S. Johnson	W. M. Bass
Bethlehem	Chambers	West Pt., Ga.	1	R. H. Bullock	B. T. Smith, jr.
Bethel -	Lee	Waverly -	2	J. C. Norton	H. H. Burns
Bethel -	Chambers	Stroud - -	4	C. J. Burden	R. Wheeler
Cusseta -	Chambers	Cusseta -	2	W. E. Lloyd	A. F. Stanley
County Line	Chambers	Dudleyville	2	W. M. Blackwelder	C. P. Hunter
Camp Hill	Tallapoosa	Camp Hill	3	F. H. Moss	T. J. Gann
Dadeville	Tallapoosa	Dadeville	2-4	R. A. J. Cumbee	W. C. McIntosh
Eagle Creek	Tallapoosa	Daviston -	2	J. C. Motley	W. W. Clark
Farmville	Lee	Auburn -	1	W. M. Blackwelder	J. I. Bedell
Fellowship	Tallapoosa	Buttston -	3	J. P. Hunter	J. M. Boon
Hickory Fl't	Chambers	Hickory Flat	3	John Cumbee	O. D. Worthy
Lystra -	Chambers	Lystra - -	4	J. C. Motley	W. H. Bachus
Liberty -	Randolph	Louina -	1	A. S. Smith	J. D. Orr
Lebanon	Tallapoosa	Dadeville	4	Jas. A. McCarley	Z. F. East
La Fayette	Chambers	La Fayette	2-4	G. E. Brewer	S. J. Meadows
Milltown	Chambers	Milltown	1	G. E. Brewer	A. S. Smith
Mt. Zion	Chambers	Tillers X R'ds	1	H. M. Horsely	A. D. Matheny
Mt. Pleasant	Chambers	Camp Hill	3	J. F. Bledsoe	R. H. Bledsoe
New Hope	Chambers	Fredonia -	4	J. P. Shaffer	W. F. Fuller
Providence	Chambers	West Pt., Ga.	3	G. E. Brewer	L. L. James
Pl's'nt R'ge	Tallapoosa	Dadeville -	3	W. A. Robertson	W. C. Roeck
Roanoke	Randolph	Roanoke -	3	J. P. Shaffer	H. M. Mickle
Rock Spring	Chambers	La Fayette	3	W. M. Blackwelder	J. C. Webb
Shiloh -	Chambers	Milltown -	4	H. M. Horsley	J. M. Jackson
Sandy Creek	Tallapoosa	Camp Hill	1	F. H. Moss	John Sykes
Tallapoosa	Tallapoosa	Jacks'n's Gap	1-3	Cat Smith	J. M. Berry

28 Churches

STATISTICS.

CHURCHES	Baptized	By letter	Restored	Dism's'd	Excl'd'd	Dead	Total no. members	No. S. S. teachers	No. S. S. scholars	Seating capacity of ch'rch
Antioch - - - - - - -	15	11		8			167	5	30	500
Beulah - - - - - - -		1	1	9	3		138			300
Bethlehem - - - - - -		1		8		1	102			
Bethel - - - - - - -	7	3		5	1		78	3	32	400
Bethel - - - - - - -	1	1	1	8	2	3	96	2	25	
Cusseta - - - - - -		1				2	62	3	35	350
County Line - - - - -	17	14		13	1	2	213	8	77	400
Camp Hill - - - - -		3		3	1	1	35			400

Brought forward	40	35	2	54	8	9	886	21	199	2350
Dadeville	7	2	2	10			119	8	117	100
Eagle Creek		7	13	4			132			200
Farmville	7	1	1	6			82	5	41	200
Fellowship	16	17		3	4	2	106	4	40	300
Hickory Flat	1						30			
Lystra	2	5		1		3	60			200
Liberty	2			4			51			300
Lebanon	6	8	3	4		4	81	4	40	200
La Fayette	7	8			1		124	12	114	500
Milltown				10	1	4	145	4	50	500
Mt. Zion	8		1	4	1	1	78			400
Mt. Pleasant	1			2		2	79	5	30	400
New Hope	8	1	1	10	3	2	144	4	49	400
Providence		5		5	1	3	80	5	65	200
Pleasant Ridge	8	16			2		59	6	108	
Roanoke	6	8	1	13	3	6	152	5	75	300
Rock Spring	9	14	1	11		3	204	6	90	600
Shiloh	1	4		5	1	2	75			300
Sandy Creek	8	12		10	2	4	98			
Tallapoosa		3		13	1	1	118	3	50	300
Total	137	148	25	169	28	46	2885	90	1068	7700

FINANCE.

CHURCHES	Value of church prop'ty	Pastor's salary	Incidentals	S. S. expenses	Building and repairs	S.S.con tributed
Antioch	$1000	$150	$20 00	$	$	$
Beulah	500	175				
Bethlehem						
Bethel	800					
Bethel	400	75	10 00	2 50		
Cusseta	1250	200	15 00	7 50		
County Line	800	175	1 50	5 50		7 05
Camp Hill	350					
Dadeville	1250		25 00	15 00	50	6 50
Eagle Creek	600	36			11	
Farmville	500	107		7 00		
Fellowship	350	75	6 00	4 50	14	
Hickory Flat						
Lystra	200	60				
Liberty	500	27 90	15 00			
Lebanon	50	50	15 00			
La Fayette	2000	450	75 00			169 75
Milltown	3000	200	15 00	8 50		
Mt. Zion	300	60	6 50			
Mt. Pleasant	1000	175		5 00		
New Hope	1500	250	28 00	9 00		17 75
Providence	1200	200	15 00	10 00	1032	
Pleasant Rindge		90				
Roanoke	2500	250	20 00	8 00	200	33 00
Rock Spring	2000	140	10 00			15 00
Shiloh	500	60				
Sandy Creek		75				
Tallapoosa	500	225	5 00	5 00	150	
Total	23050	3205 90	262 00	85 50	145700	249 05

GENERAL DENOMINATIONAL STATISTICS.

	Associations.	Churches.	Additions.				Diminutions.				Total white membership	Col'ed Churches.			Aggregate membership.
			Baptized.	Letter.	Expelled.	Restored.	Letter.	Excluded.	Erased.	Died.		Churches.	Baptized.	Mem'ship.	
Alabama -	60	1,305	4,992	3,503	25	550	3,394	1,143	1	791	76,717	752	5,142	85.268	161,975
Arkansas -	39	937	2,335	479	92	216	1,527	530	1	394	43.500	344	434	22,413	65,913
Florida -	14	286	532	472		84	356	143		88	10,309	178	588	16,859	27.168
Georgia -	55	1,447	8,370	5,575	22	751	6,246	1,412	9	1.267	113,400	1,231	7,825	133,784	247,184
Indian Territory	6	81	251	129	30	8	72	133		300	4,263				4.263
Kentucky -	56	1,321	7,041	2,726	342	536	3,758	1,544	176	1,401	122,297	347	2,893	52,484	174,781
Louisiana -	17	369	1,179	712	19	204	832	373	3	245	18,180	325	1.867	34,879	53,059
Maryland -	1	38	331	188		49	216	79		49	5.805	16	274	4,638	10,443
Misissippi -	42	968	3,994	2,541		545	2,931	848		693	61,109	1,031	1,630	98,210	159.319
Missouri -	67	1,395	6,447	3,380	638	372	3 707	1,302	204	870	89,751	174	889	11,694	101,445
North Carolina	41	1,180	7,970	2,894	7	853	3,404	1,938		1,122	109,900	991	4,678	100,676	210,576
South Carolina	28	712	3.208	1,939	24	364	2,341	775	45	772	64,765	363	3,662	88,532	153,297
Tennessee -	38	1,125	4,035	1,817	105	359	2,287	1,044	98	888	84,704	299	487	34,951	119,655
Texas -	69	1,717	6,944	7,358	120	692	5,555	1,670	6	906	87.451	664	3,692	44,687	132,138
Virginia -	23	747	4,475	1.412	187	351	1,640	1,052	384	931	74,660	764	4,477	141,968	216,628
West Virginia	14	484	2,197	643	41	323	653	785		313	39,698				30,698
Total - -	570	14,102	64,301	35,767	1,652	6,257	38,919	14,771	927	1,010	997,509	7,480	38,538	871,043	1,868.552

Total Baptist Churches in the United States, 28,599 — Total Baptist Membership in the United States 2,507,753
Total Baptist Churches in the World 33,800 — Total Baptist Membership in the World 2,059,635

EXTRACTS FROM MINUTES OF STATE BAPTIST CONVENTION.

HOWARD COLLEGE.

From the Report of the Board of Trustees of Howard College:

"In conclusion, we may congratulate ourselves and the Convention on the work the College has done during its history in the education of so many ministers of the Gospel, many of whom are prominent in our own and other States. We might also mention the advantages to us as a denomination from the training of the great number of secular students, many of whom occupy prominent positions in church, State, business and professional life. These are results obtained under the blessings of God, and should fill the heart of every Baptist in the State with profound gratitude to Him, the giver of all our blessings. We should be thankful for being the instruments in his hand of doing such a work, and should rejoice that the means are still left us, which, by united action, may yet accomplish greater things. Therefore, may we not ask the united influence, sympathy and co-operation of this Convention and our brethren throughout the State for their support to Howard College and in upholding and extending the influence of this agency of the denomination.

JUDSON FEMALE INSTITUTE.

From the Report of the Board of Trustees of the Judson Female Institute:

"The Forty-Seventh Session of the Judson, being one of the most prosperous since the war, closed on the 11th day of June, 1885.

"In order to supply the increasing demand for rooms to accommodate boarders, the Trustees have contracted with an architect and builder to erect an elegant and commodious three-story brick building, 45x75 feet, on the north end of the main building—thus affording accommodations for some fifty more boarders. The work will be completed by the opening of the next session on the 1st of October.

"We congratulate the Convention, as well as the friends of education, that our worthy and beloved brother, Robt. Frazier, who has presided so satisfactorily over the Judson for the past three years, will remain with us. With a single exception, the entire faculty, so efficient in the past, will be in charge next year."

TEMPERANCE.

From the Report on Temperance:

"We report with pleasure that we have received from them an address making certain requests of us as a body upon which we base the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1st, That we recommend to our ministering brethren and all others engaged in any department of Christian labor the importance of emphasizing the subject of temperance.

Resolved, 2nd, That we endorse the movement of the W. C. T. U. toward the procurement of quarterly temperance lessons in the International Lesson Series.

Resolved, 3rd, That we also favor the setting apart of a day of prayer in eh week of prayer for the cause of temperance.

Resolved, 4th, That a committee of five be appointed whose duty it shall be to secure the columns of the secular press, and, as far as possible, engage the editorial staff of the papers in the State, in the interest of temperance sentiment, and further, by appeal to the judiciary of the State to secure the better enforcement of statutes touching the traffic, and also, that they issue an address to the people of the State urging them by their voice and vote to contribute to the suppression of the traffic.

SABBATH SCHOOLS.

From the Report on Sabbath Schools:

"We cannot close this report without urging:

1 That there should be a Baptist Sabbath school in every Baptist church. Some of our churches have no school at all; and some are engaged in union schools. This is all wrong, for the former are dead, or dying; and the latter "shun to declare the whole counsel of God" in their teaching. There may be some extreme cases where it might be expedient to work in union schools. But we submit that where there is sufficient material for a Baptist church, there is also sufficient material for a Baptist Sabbath school

2. The entire church in the Sabbath school. The notion that the Sunday school is only for children, though again and again shown to be erroneous, is still sadly prevalent in our State. There are many members of our churches who ought to be actively and earnestly engaged in Sabbath school work who are holding themselves aloof, and thereby practically exerting their influence in opposition to the cause which they, in theory approve. This is one of the most serious obstacles to a larger measure of success in this good cause. If all of our people were interested in the study of God's word, and the salvation of their children and friends, and would manifest their interest by going with their families, and all others whom they could influence, every Lord's day to the house of God, with Bible in hand, to receive and impart that truth which leads to salvation, raises man to the highest plane of human living, and fits him for a place where the spirit of the just is developed and made perfect, it would not be long till the cause of Christ would move grandly forward and the hearts of Christians would be filled with joy in witnessing, constantly, numbers of persons hopefully

converted to Christ, and uniting with the armies of Zion. We urge pastors to make an honest and earnest effort to enlist the whole church in the Sabbath school cause.

3 Benevolence in the Sabbath school Some of our schools contribute liberally to the cause of Christ; others give little, or nothing. Indeed, we are surprised to find that so few schools seem to attach any importance to the development of this spirit. And yet, if there is any one point along the whole line of Christian duty and privilege where the greatest prominence should be given the scriptural injunction, "Abound in this grace," it is here. Here are the young who are learning their life lesson, and forming immutable characters. If we would have them attain the highest possible success in blessing the world, and reach the highest state of spiritual development. we must, right here, inculcate the spirit of practical benevolence.

Gaylord
PAMPHLET BINDER
Syracuse, N. Y.
Stockton, Calif.